Message Text

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PAGE 01   STATE 119601

ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INSE-00 /021 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OA/AVP:JMROBERTS:PMA

APPROVED BY EB/OA/AVP:AJWHITE

INS:TJBROBSON

EUR/RPE:RLAMANTIA

EUR/CAN:GMONROE

                  ------------------067747 111121Z /15

R 102249Z MAY 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS STATE 119601

US EEC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, OCLR, US, CA, EEC

SUBJECT: FLIGHT OF EEC COMMISSION PRESIDENT

JENKINS

REF: BRUSSELS 5142

1. THE DEPARTMENT RECEIVED A REPLY ON 3 MAY FROM THE

IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE (INS) CONCERNING

THE FOUL-UP OF EEC COMMISSION PRESIDENT JENKINS'

MARCH 10TH FLIGHT FROM HALIFAX TO NEW YORK. AS EMBASSY

AND US EEC WILL RECALL, ARRANGEMENTS WERE OSTENSIBLY

MADE TO ENABLE MR. JENKINS' AIRCRAFT, WHICH WAS PROVIDED

BY THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT, TO LAND AT LA GUARDIA.

BRIEFLY, JENKINS' FLIGHT WAS NOT COORDIANTED WITH THE

DEPARTMENT NOR THE INS, FOR NEITHER HAS A RECORD OF ANY

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ARRANGEMENTS MADE TO PROCESS JENKINS' FLIGHT AT LA GUARDIA.

2. FROM WHAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PIECE TOGETHER, THE

CANADIAN CONSULATE IN NEW YORK ARRANGED FOR US CUSTOMS

TO PROCESS AT LA GUARDIA THE CREW AND PASSENGERS ABOARD

THE CANADIAN AIRCRAFT. HOWEVER, THEY FORGOT TO MAKE

SIMILIAR ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE INS. WHEN THE CUSTOMS

OFFICER LEARNED THAT HIS INS COUNTERPART WAS NOT PRESENT,
HE NOTIFIED INS AT JOHN F. KENNEDY AIRPORT (JFK). NOT

HAVING BEEN SUFFICIENTLY FORE WARNED, THE INS WAS
UNABLE TO SCHEDULE AN INSPECTOR AT THE "ELEVENTH HOUR".
FURTHER, SINCE LA GUARDIA IS NOT A PORT OF ENTRY, EVEN
IF THE CANADIAN CONSULATE HAD CONTACTED INS, IT IS
DOUBTFUL ACCORDING TO INS WHETHER THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN
ABLE TO ACCOMODATE JENKINS AND PARTY AT LA GUARDIA.
UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE INS HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO
INFORM THE CUSTOMS OFFICER AT LA GUARDIA THAT THE
PASSENGERS WOULD HAVE TO BE INSPECTED AT JFK.

3. THE INS AND THE DEPARTMENT REGRET THAT MR. JENKINS
AND HIS PARTY WERE INCONVENIENCED. USEEC MAY WANT TO
PASS THIS EXPLANATION TO JENKINS' STAFF. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, ITINERARY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE119601
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JMROBERTS:PMA
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780200-0101
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780572/aaaacjgl.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 813730a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BRUSSELS 5142
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2731298
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FLIGHT OF EEC COMMISSION PRESIDENT JENKINS
TAGS: EAIR, OCLR, US, CA, EEC, INS, (JENKINS, ROY)
To: BRUSSELS
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/813730a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
 Sheryl P. Walter
 Declassified/Released
 US Department of State
 EO Systematic Review
 20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter   Declassified/Released   US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014